



# Session Notes

## Nevada State Conservation Commission

Strategic Planning Work Session

November 2, 2009 - Fallon

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**Session Objective:** Development of a strategic plan for the Nevada State Conservation Commission including strategic focus, goals, opportunities, benchmarks, timeline and actions.

**Function, Powers & Authorities, Current Mission Statement of the SCC:**

- See PowerPoint slides

**Greatest Accomplishment in 5 years:** By 11.2.09 the NvSCC will...

District Assistance / Program Planning & Implementation:

- Get more interaction to see what works and what doesn't
- Help the conservation districts protect and preserve current water resources in relation to farming, ranching, wildlife, and non-urban
- SCC would exercise some authority to have districts produce a listing of high priority resource concerns so that staff could assist them with finding and receiving the funds for at least 10 of the districts to fulfill one or more of their prioritized resource concerns
- SCC is the recognized entity that articulates and represents the program accomplishments and needs of each CD
- Become the recognized go-to agency for implementing conservation programs through funding and partnerships with ready-to-go projects
- NV becomes the leader in renewable energy without depleting our natural resources

Partnerships:

- Using grants, working with partner agencies and organizations to have more of an impact on natural resources in NV
- Relationships built with Forest Service, BLM, NDF, and CA counties on weed control projects
- Develop MOUs to carry out programs with BLM, Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife, EPA Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, NRCS and others
- Work with partners on improving water laws
- Partner with NRCS to staff at least 4 technical staff to carry out mutual conservation operations
- Working with adjoining states on watershed projects

Funding

- Increase funding to CDs by twice and have 20 to 1 leverage of funding
- Increased and more secure funding for conservation districts and SCC staffing – eg regional people to assist districts

Training & Services:

- Implementing a district supervisors training program
- Have regional SCC offices

### Criteria for Selecting Strategic Priorities:

- Locally identified and led with state wide significance positive impact on natural resources
- Has to be feasible / attainable including funding (xxx)
- Cost effective and enhance the ability to expand the conservation programs
- Would lead to effective partnerships (xxx)
- Would have long term benefits
- Would encourage greater community involvement
- Success has to be measurable
- Ability to share and utilize in other capacities / locations
- Will it promote our achievements, and be the go-to agency
- It is legal

### Strategic Priorities:

- **District High Priority Conservation Needs and Projects** – collection of road map of ready to go projects including significant detail including location, cost, timelines, partnerships needed, funding potential outside the state legislature
  - Measure - # of projects identified, planned, implemented & # of district participating
- **State Water Laws** – input by SCC and CDs on water laws, regulations and impact on conservation plans and efforts
  - Measure impact on water legislation & implementation, water resources trend data
- **District Supervisor Training, Recruitment & Retention** – needs assessment (identifying and prioritizing), training for district supervisors, sharing accomplishments, examples and lessons learned in district operations, district supervisor recruitment, and project planning & implementation
  - Measure # of districts with full boards of enthusiastic, engaged, knowledgeable and trained supervisors
- **Promote & Develop Partnerships** – for funding, staffing, projects, funding workshops for districts
  - Measure - # of projects with partners, funding & staff resources shared, partner participation
- **Statewide Outreach & Marketing** – sharing accomplishments, leverage of on dollars, and needs with key audiences
  - Measure - Expanded knowledge of districts and SCC with key audiences, relationship & utilization of media sources & social networking (local, state)
- **Regional Support** – work toward regional staff support for districts
  - Measure – staff & presence -

**District High Priority Conservation Needs and Projects** – collection of a road map of ready to go projects including significant detail including location, cost, timelines, partnerships needed, funding potential outside the state legislature.

**Measure** - # of projects identified, planned, implemented & # of district participating

**Goal:** By November 2014 2/3 of Nevada CDs will have identifiable projects and 1/3 of them are being implemented or in process.

**Benchmarks, Timeline, Actions:**

Benchmark	Timeline	Actions & Person Responsible
Develop a project template	In 60 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CD/SCC staff</li> </ul>
Request project information form CDs and submit template	6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SCC staff will request information</li> <li>CDs will fill out and return for all projects</li> </ul>
Develop and enter into data base	In 60 days & within one week of receipt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop database – NV Lands Division assistance</li> <li>SCC staff enter data</li> </ul>
Match with funding	As available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners and staff</li> </ul>
Solicit funding from partners	1 year continuous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners and staff</li> </ul>
Measure success	2-3 times a year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review at SCC meetings</li> </ul>

**State Water Laws** – input by SCC and CDs on water laws, regulations and impact on conservation plans and efforts

**Measure** - impact on water legislation & implementation, water resources trend data

**Goal:** By November 2014 have a demonstrated increase input by SCC and CD's on water laws, regulations and impact on conservation plans and efforts

**Benchmarks, Timeline, Actions:**

Benchmark	Timeline	Actions & Person Responsible
Resolutions from state association	1/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolutions put forward from NvACD chair and staff</li> <li>Concept paper developed from resolutions and district input</li> </ul>
Legislation introduced into legislation	5/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with state legislators to introduce legislation</li> </ul>
Enforcement of existing water laws	11/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Review of conservation plans	11/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request to review conservation plans</li> <li>Review and make comments on conservation plans</li> </ul>

**District Supervisor Training, Recruitment & Retention** – needs assessment (identifying and prioritizing), training for district supervisors, sharing accomplishments, examples and lessons learned in district operations, district supervisor recruitment, and project planning & implementation

**Measure:** # of districts with full boards of enthusiastic, engaged, knowledgeable and trained supervisors

**Goal:** By November 2014 have a demonstrated increase in number of districts with full boards of enthusiastic, engaged, knowledgeable and trained supervisors

**Benchmarks, Timeline, Actions:**

Benchmark	Timeline	Actions & Person Responsible
Develop (revise/update) CD board training material	11/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SCC staff</li> </ul>
CD board - prioritize training needs. Conduct training at three board meetings annually	After 11/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SCC staff &amp; CD boards</li> </ul>
Evaluate viability of consolidation to increase recruitment and retention of board members	By 11/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SCC staff / CD board</li> </ul>
Hold an annual public meeting to discuss and identify needs with community, producers, and key stakeholders	By 11/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CD Board Supervisors</li> </ul>

**Promote & Develop Partnerships** – for funding, staffing, projects, funding workshops for districts

**Measure** - # of projects with partners, funding & staff resources shared, partner participation

**Goal:** By November 2014, all districts will be effectively partnered on at least one of their key resource programs

**Benchmarks, Timeline, Actions:**

Benchmark	Timeline	Actions & Person Responsible
Identify potential partners	Spring 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DCD Staff</li> </ul>
Using potential partner list, match contacts with each conservation district	End of 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DCD staff</li> <li>▪ District Supervisors</li> </ul>
50% of districts effectively partnered	2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DCD staff</li> <li>▪ Commission</li> <li>▪ District Supervisors &amp; partnering agencies</li> </ul>

Same as above but 100%	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as above</li> </ul>
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## Statewide Outreach & Marketing – sharing accomplishments, leverage of on dollars, and needs with key audiences

**Measure** - Expanded knowledge of districts and SCC with key audiences, relationship & utilization of media sources & social networking (local, state)

**Goal:** By November 2014, have every district recognized for at least one project, to a key audience – local, statewide, or national

### Benchmarks, Timeline, Actions:

Benchmark	Timeline	Actions & Person Responsible
Division / NvACD highlight 1 district quarterly on website	2 by end of FY2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District staff submission of project highlight NDCD staff uploads to state site with district staff</li> </ul>
5 districts develop webpage per year	Each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NDCD staff and Bob Conrad – development of transferable template for page</li> </ul>
1 local news article on district project per district	Each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District staff supervisor writes 1 press release per year. Includes photo, partners, and benefit.</li> </ul>

## Regional Support – work toward regional staff support for districts

**Measure** – staff & presence

**Goal:** Staff and presence by 2014

### Benchmarks, Timeline, Actions:

Benchmark	Timeline	Actions & Person Responsible
Ideas and discussion of funding sources	2011 annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set as agenda item</li> <li>Reports to Commission, Staff &amp; NRCS</li> </ul>
Identify potential funding sources	11/2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission – 2 sources per commissioner</li> </ul>
Identify a region of need	11/2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input from Sandi &amp; Kelly from CDs and Commission / # of required staff / locations</li> </ul>
Staffing and location approval	11/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission will make final regional location &amp; staffing recruitment / approve.</li> </ul>